

## **REGULAR MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY INNOVATION COMMITTEE**

***Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – 4:30 p.m.***

Township of South-West Oxford

Council Chambers

Present: Mayor David Mayberry; Councillor Valerie Durston; David Schell  
(community representative); Cathy Reeves (community representative);  
and George Klosler (community representative).

Regrets: Chair Jim Pickard; Works Superintendent Adam Prouse

Staff: Clerk Julie Middleton

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### **Call to Order**

Mayor David Mayberry called the meeting to order at 4:41 p.m. and a quorum was present.

### **Motion to Accept the Agenda**

Resolution No. 1 Moved by Valerie Durston  
Seconded by David Schell

RESOLVED that the agenda for the meeting of the June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Environment and Energy Innovation Committee be approved, as  
amended.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

### **Minutes**

Resolution No. 2 Moved by Valerie Durston  
Seconded by Cathy Reeves

RESOLVED that the minutes of the May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting  
Environment and Energy Innovation Committee meeting be  
reviewed and approved.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

## **Business Arising from the Minutes**

### **Electrical Audit Updates & Follow-Up – Salford and Beachville Museum**

- Salford Hall Updates:
  - Darryl took the range hood apart and noticed no louvers from downdraft are coming into the building – when the hood range inspection takes place, he will inquire what other facilities do for this. The hall board may need to determine the best course of action as to how they would like this to be fixed.
  - Darryl also investigated the water pumps – he noted that there are not two water pumps, the water pump for the well is 240V which uses two 15A lines, that explains why it's labelled as such and has the same energy used.
- Beachville Museum Updates:
  - Darryl is working on obtaining this information from Tim Smith

### **Consideration Heat Pump at Mount Elgin Community Centre**

Facilities Maintenance Technician Darryl Nutt has obtained a quote from Rick's Heating, he is waiting on a reply from Black and MacDonald. George noted that the cost for natural gas vs. boiler is likely close for heating at the hall. Discussion took place regarding end of life for the existing furnace and may consider replacing with a different option when the need arises.

Committee would like to know how much propane they are using at the hall now – is the water heater, stove and furnace is natural gas or propane? The boiler is gas – is it possible to switch the stove from propane to gas or when the stove dies, then replace with different type of stove? Is there a conversion kit or does the stove have to be replaced. How much propane is used at the community centre in a year?

### **Dereham Centre Hall Roof Repair Update**

It was noted that the roof is finished, the blown-in insulation is also complete.

## **Correspondence**

### **Film Plastic Collection Stats**

Oxford County (Pam Antonio) has provided information regarding film plastic tonnage collection from 2020 to 2025. Question arose regarding when they started collecting

bale plastic in 2023 – was it for the entire year? and why is this so low so far in 2025 and where the plastic is shipped to? – Question for Pam.

### **Discussion Items**

#### **Brownsville Hydro Usage**

Darryl has been auditing the hydro bills for the Brownsville Community Centre and noted that in February the bill decreased from \$875 in 2024 to \$615 in 2025. He further noted that in March 2025 the bill was \$498.74 and in 2024 it was \$675.27 – which represents a significant decrease. He anticipates this is from setting the EcoBee's according to policy (21 degrees Celsius) and unplugging the fridge. Overall, there has been a downward trend in energy consumption. The committee was pleased with this result.

### **New Business**

Bill 5 – will be voted on today or tomorrow. The province is pushing this through very quickly.

Cathy suggested that throughout the summer months, the Committee will review goals and projects for the year – Julie will recirculate for the September meeting and Committee will need to think about what will need to be considered in 2026 budget. March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes – add to items for discussion in September, 2025.

#### **Wind Turbine Proposals in Township**

Discussion about two wind turbine proposals – one in the north and one in the south – there is a lot of angst in the community – some accurate and some not. No ground mounted solar on ag land is permitted only roof mounted may be permitted – any other proposals can be submitted. The lowest price wins. The municipality has to provide consent for the applicant to submit an application. Discussion took place regarding the approval process for renewable energy projects and the need for proponents to come forward to Council to request municipal support.

It was noted that 30% of corn in Ontario is used for ethanol – compare to the amount of energy that can be produced on two acres of corn vs. the two acres of land use for a wind turbine.

### **Adjournment**

Resolution No. 3     Moved by George Klosler

Seconded by Valerie Durston

RESOLVED that there being no further business, the Environment and Energy Innovation Committee adjourn at 5:32 p.m. to meet again on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried